

dispensing means for selectively dispensing said tickets according to the number of credits;

detector means for detecting a winning amount displayed on a ticket previously dispensed from the dispensing means; and

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credit means for increasing the number of credits corresponding to the winning amount.

36.(NEW) The multi-game ticket self-service terminal of Claim 35 wherein the credit means increases the number of credits for use in buying tickets of a type different from the previously dispensed ticket.

REMARKS

This is responsive to the Office Action date October 23, 2001 in which claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 27 and 29 (all the pending claims at that time) were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite.

Applicants have amended claims 2, 7, 8, 27 and 29 according to the suggestions, recommendations and rejections contained in the Office Action. Moreover, due to the extensive changes required to claim 1, applicants have canceled claim 1 and added new claim 35 as a replacement. A diligent effort has been made by applicants to correct the § 112, second paragraph, issues from claim 1 in new claim 35.

As a result of the cancellation of claim 1 and introduction of new claim 35, the dependency of claims 2, 7 and 8 has been changed herein.

As a result of the amendments and changes to the claims made herein, applicants respectfully assert that the § 112, second paragraph rejections identified in the Office Action have been overcome. Moreover, applicants earnestly request substantive examination of the now pending claims with respect to the prior art. If the Examiner feels that any aspect of the now pending claims requires clarification prior to a substantive examination with respect to the prior art, he is asked to telephone the undersigned attorney so that the matter may be promptly resolved and examination with respect to the prior art be conducted.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page(s) is/are captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

Respectfully submitted,

WOOD, HERRON & EVANS, L.L.P.

By 
Keith R. Haupt
Reg. 37,638

2700 Carew Tower
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202
(513) 241-2324
FAX (513) 421-7269
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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

2.(Amended) A self-service terminal as in Claim [1] 35 in which said ticket types include instant-winner pull-tab tickets stored in stacks of separate tickets.

7. (Twice Amended) A self-service terminal as in Claim [1] including a dispensing mechanism mounted in said housing for dispensing tickets from each of said strips, each said dispensing mechanism including] 35 wherein the dispensing means further comprises a separator mechanism for separating tickets from one another before being guided out of said housing, said separator mechanism including at least one rotary dull helical separator member, at least one detector mounted in said housing for detecting the position of said tickets and a drive device mounted [ins aid] in said housing [for] and coupled to the separator member to selectively [rotating] rotate said separator member to separate said tickets.

8. (Twice Amended) A self-service terminal as in Claim [1] 35 in which said dispensing means [for selectively dispensing] includes a plurality of dispensing mechanisms, each including a separator/drive module, said module comprising a drive housing, inlet and outlet openings in said drive housing, a rotary separator member rotatably mounted in said housing and positioned to extend across a ticket strip dispensing path for extending across one of said strips when a strip is in a position for

dispensing, a first ticket drive device in said [housing] drive housing between said inlet opening and said separator member to move said strip to a separation location, and a second ticket drive device mounted adjacent said separator member for moving at least one ticket away from said separator member and through said outlet opening.

27. (Twice Amended) A separator/drive module for driving and separating tickets from a strip of tickets in which individual tickets are delineated from one another by lines of weakness, said module comprising: a housing, inlet and outlet openings in said housing, a rotary separator member rotatably mounted in said housing and positioned across a ticket strip dispensing path to span said strip and extend in a direction transverse to said strip when said strip is in position for separation, a first ticket drive device in said housing between said inlet opening and said separator member to move said strip to a separation location, and a second ticket drive device mounted in said housing for moving at least one ticket away from said separator member and through said outlet opening.

29. (Twice Amended) A module as in Claim 27 in which said separator member has a shaft with a helical projection extending therefrom, and including a drive motor mounted in said housing [for] and coupled to said shaft to selectively [rotating] rotate said shaft to separate tickets in said strip.

35.(NEW) A multi-game ticket self-service terminal comprising:

 a housing for storing a plurality of different types of game tickets, said types including lottery tickets stored in strips in which individual tickets are delineated from one another by lines of weakness;

 a currency acceptor device mounted in said housing to accept currency and produce a corresponding number of credits;

 credit display means in communication with the currency acceptor device and mounted in the housing for displaying the number of credits;

 dispensing means for selectively dispensing said tickets according to the number of credits;

 detector means for detecting a winning amount displayed on a ticket previously dispensed from the dispensing means; and

 credit means for increasing the number of credits corresponding to the winning amount.

36.(NEW) The multi-game ticket self-service terminal of Claim 35 wherein the credit means increases the number of credits for use in buying tickets of a type different from the previously dispensed ticket.